

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 9-10, 18-24, 26, 29-32 and 40-60 are canceled herein. Therefore, claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14-16, 25, 27, 28, 33, 34, 36, 37 and 38 are currently pending.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 25, 27, 28, 33 and 34 were "objected to". "Objected to" claims 3, 5, 11, 25, 27 and 33 are amended herein to be in independent form. Therefore, all the "objected to" claims should now be allowable.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIM 8 UNDER 35 USC 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Examiner rejects claim 8 as not being supported by the specification.

However, it is respectfully submitted that support for claim 8 is found, for example, in FIGS. 5 and 6 and the corresponding disclosure on page 23, line 7, through page 25, line 2, of the specification. See especially controlling unit 35 receiving an output from optical spectrum analyzer 31 in FIG. 5, and the disclosure on page 24, lines 16-31, of the specification. See also page 57, line 4, through page 62, line 4, of the specification.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the objection is overcome.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 14-16 and 36-38

Claim 14 recites second radio-frequency signal applying means, *provided independently from the first radio-frequency signal applying means*, for applying a second radio-frequency signal *independent from said first radio-frequency applying means*, and radio-frequency signal generating means for generating said first and second radio-frequency signals *independent of each other*.

See, for example, on page 62, line 5, through page 68, line 11, of the specification. See also FIG. 19 of the present application.

For example, as shown in FIG. 19 of the present application, RF signal source 171 generates an RF signal which is applied via first IDS 174 (i.e., a transducer) and SAW guide 175 to a first optical waveguide. See, for example, page 62, lines 35-36, of the specification. Independently of the RF signal applied via first IDS 174 and SAW guide 175, RF signal source 180 generates an RF signal which is applied via second IDT 179 and SAW guide 178 to a second optical waveguide. See, for example, page 63, lines 7-9, of the specification.

These features in claim 14 are significantly different than that shown, for example, in FIG.

6 of Cheung. For example, in FIG. 6 of Cheung, a RF signal is applied to a single transducer 116. More specifically, as shown in FIG. 6 of Cheung, a comb-shaped electrode IDT 116 straddles over the two optical waveguides 104 and 106, to thereby generate a SAW which similarly acts upon the two optical waveguides 104 and 106. See, for example, column 14, lines 12-20, of Cheung.

The above comments are specifically directed to claim 14. However, it is respectfully submitted that the comments are helpful in understanding differences of claims 15, 16, 36, 37 and 38 over Cheung.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections are overcome.

IV. CONCLUSION

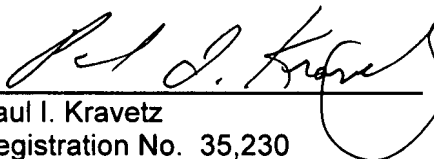
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: June 4, 2007

By: 
Paul I. Kravetz
Registration No. 35,230

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501